

Spectrum



The Greenjacket's mascot Sting presses hand to heart as he listens to the National Anthem.



Photos by Bonnie Heater

Green Jackets shower Soldiers with appreciation

Staff Reports

The first place Augusta GreenJackets baseball club hosted thousands of Soldiers and other members of the Fort Gordon 'family' at last Friday's 'Military Appreciation Night.' Wearing special red-white-and-blue uniforms for the occasion, the GreenJackets planned several activities to honor our Military and their Families, to include several members of the Warriors in Transition Battalion tossing the honorary first pitch of the game.

Even the impending rain didn't deter the Soldier spectators from having fun. Soldiers poured onto the field when they realized the grounds crew was having a hard time covering the field with giant tarps. The game was delayed for about an hour as it rained.

Among attendees was North Augusta's 84 year-old Lou Brissie. A World War Two Army veteran and Purple Heart recipient, Brissie recovered from his wounds to play for the Cleveland Indians and as an American League All Star in the late 1940's. One of the largest crowds of the season turned out for the game.

The Greenjackets won 2-0 against Hagerstown.

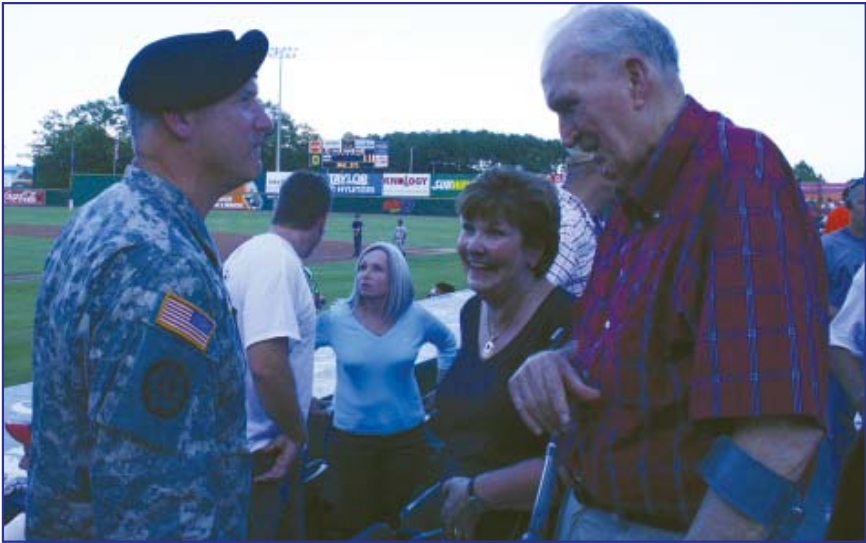
Soldiers from the Warriors in Transition Battalion throw out honorary "first pitch". Players then signed balls for them.



A flyover honors the many Soldiers who attended Military Appreciation Night at the Greenjackets.



Baseball fans ask questions about a vehicle on display.



Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Foley, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general meets Lou Brissie, a World War II Veteran from North Augusta who although injured in the war returned and played professional baseball with the Cleveland Indians.



(Above) Soldiers from the 15th Signal Brigade sing the National Anthem before the game.



(Left, below) Crowds of Soldiers and Family members watch as a Greenjacket makes a play.

